

INFORMATION REPORT

CD No.

DATE DISR. 23 OCT 50

COUNTRY: Afghanistan

SUBJECT 1. Soviet Products in Afghanistan
2. Transportation Conditions North of Kabul
25X1A

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1. White gasoline and print cloth were the only Soviet products observed in various bazars between Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif. The Soviet gasoline contained water. No refugees were seen or heard of in this area.
2. The road between Kabul and Mazar-i-Sharif were all good, at least by Afghan standards. However, the road eastward from Mazar-i-Sharif to Kunduz passes through desert country. Often it is smoother to ride on the desert itself. Cross country travel by car north to the Soviet border is possible from almost any point on this road.
3. According to the Governor of Mazar-i-Sharif, the Afghan Government will abandon the Termez-Mazar-i-Sharif road as the main route of entry for Soviet goods into Afghanistan. Reasons for the abandonment are the difficulties of maintenance and the inadequacy of the ferry crossing at Termez. To replace the old route, the Afghan Government is building a good ferry crossing at Ilif to be connected by a road running south to the road between Andkud and Mazar-i-Sharif.

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